

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15

PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 NSC-05 NEA-10

ERDA-05 H-02 IO-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 EURE-00 /093 W

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5537

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 5535

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, NAC, XE, XF, XC, PLOS

SUBJ: ALLIANCE CONSULTATIONS: OCT 29 REINFORCED NAC MEETING
ON THE FAR EAST

REF: A. USNATO 5459; B. STATE 231851; C. USNATO 5149;
D. STATE 203510

SUMMARY: AT OCT 8 NAC, ALLIES ACCEPTED SYG
LUNS' PROPOSALS FOR A SIX-MONTH PROGRAM OF
REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATIONS. ALLIES ALSO FORMALLY AGREED TO
OCT 29 AS DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE FAR
EAST. THE SUGGESTIONS FOR REINFORCED NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL
CONSULTATIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND ON LAW OF THE SEA WERE
ADOPTED IN PRINCIPLE ALTHOUGH SPECIFIC DATES WERE NOT DIS-
CUSSED. THE PROPOSAL FOR REINFORCED CONSULTATIONS ON EAST-
WEST RELATIONS, WHILE GENERALLY FAVORED, DREW A NUMBER OF
SPECIFIC COMMENTS. THE COUNCIL QUALIFIED ITS OVERALL ADOPTION OF
THE SYG'S PROGRAM BY INDICATING THE MAJORITY CONTINUES TO
OPPOSE "INSTITUTIONALIZATION" OF REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATIONS.
COMMENT AND ACTION: MISSION SUGGESTS DEPARTMENT MAY NOW
WISH TO TURN ATTENTION TO FIXING A DATE IN LATE NOVEMBER FOR A
REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AND
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REQUESTS GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. SYG LUNS LED OFF DISCUSSION BY REFERRING TO TEXT OF A
PROPOSAL ON ALLIANCE POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS HE HAD DISTRI-

BUTED ON SEPT 19 (REF C) AND BY SUMMARIZING SUBSEQUENT PERMREPS' INFORMAL CONVERSATION AND COMMUNICATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. LUNS SAID HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT US ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS, PHILIP C. HABIB, WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH THE COUNCIL TOWARDS THE END OF OCTOBER, AND, UNLESS THERE WERE OBJECTIONS, HE WISHED TO FIX WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, AS THE DATE FOR THIS REINFORCED CONSULTATION. LUNS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT MANY OTHER ALLIES WOULD BE REPRESENTED AT THIS FAR EAST CONSULTATION BY HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS WHO DEAL WITH THAT AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. UK CHARGE LOGAN SAID IT WAS HMG'S INTENTION TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING BY THE ASSISTANT UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE FOR FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS, PETER MALE. THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, THIS REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATION ON THE FAR EAST WAS FIXED FOR OCTOBER 29.

2. CONCERNING THE REMAINDER OF THE SYG'S PROPOSAL PROGRAM, THERE WAS GENERAL ENDORSEMENT OF IT IN PRINCIPLE, WITH THE SOLE QUALIFICATION THAT THE COUNCIL OUGHT NOT SEEK TO "INSTITUTIONALIZE" SUCH CONSULTATIONS. THOSE WHO ENDORSED

THE PROPOSAL WITHOUT FURTHER QULIFICATION INCLUDED: US, DENMARK, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, GREECE, CANADA, FRG, UK, ICELAND, NORWAY, LUXEMBOURG AND ITALY.

3. SEPCIFIC RESERVATIONS OR QUALIFICATIONS WERE EXPRESSED BY TWO:

-- FRENCH PERMREP DE ROSE REHEARSED TRADITIONAL FRENCH OPPOSITION TO WHAT HE CALLED "POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF THE NATO AREA OF COMPETENCE" AND "POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE DELVING INTO PROBLEMS WITH WHICH IT IS NOT COMPETENT TO DEAL".

-- TURKISH PERMREP ERALP VOICED APPROVAL FOR THIS SERIES OF REINFORCED CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED IT WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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UNDERSTOOD THE GOAL WAS AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND A COMPARISION OF ASSESSMENTS. HE SAID THAT WHILE

SUCH EXCHANGE AND COMPARISION MIGHT LEAD TO SOME COMMON POINTS OF VIEW, THERE SHOULD BE NO SPECIFIC ATTEMPT TO SEEK COMMON ALLIANCE POLICIES IN THE COURSE OF THESE CONSUTLTATIONS.

4. IN EXPRESSING HIS OVERALL SUPPORT FOR REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATIONS, BELGIAN PERMREP DE STAERCKE SAID HE FOUND THIS FORMAT OF PARTICULAR VALUE IN THAT IT BROUGHT NATO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES INTO CLOSER CONTACT WITH TOP DECISION-MAKING LEVELS OF THEIR OWN GOVERNMENTS, PARTICULARLY ON CERTAIN KEY SUBJECTS. IN THISREGARD, HE SINGLED OUT PREVIOUS REINFORCED

COUNCIL MEETINGS ON SOVIET UNION AND EAST-WEST AFFAIRS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF THE US BY COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN WHICH HAD BROUGHT KEY EAST-WEST ISSUES TO THE ATTENTION OF TOP LEVELS OF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT. DE STAERCKE ALSO ALLUDED BRIEFLY TO HIS PREVIOUS SUGGESTION IN FAVOR OF A REINFORCED COUNCIL MEETING ON MBFR OPTION III, AND WITHOUT SAYING WHEN SUCH AN MBFR CONSULTATION MIGHT PROVE TIMELY, SUGGESTED AGAIN THAT IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE ONE DAY TO BRING TOGETHER POLITICAL DIRECTORS FROM CAPITALS OF ALLIES ENGAGED IN MBFR TO DISCUSS OPTION III AND THUS INCREASE HIGH-LEVEL FOCUS UPON IT.

5. ON THE QUESTION OF CONSULTATIONS ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS, SEVERAL PERMREPS ECHOED DOUBTS ABOUT SETTING DATE OF CONSULTATION PENDING DEVELOPMENTS IN SALT AND MBFR. OTHERS NOTED THAT THIS MATTER FALLS UNDER THE NORMAL COMPETENCE OF THE COUNCIL AND, THEREFORE, SHOULD BE IN DIFFERENT CATEGORY FROM CONSULTATIONS ON MATTERS OUTSIDE TREATY AREA.

6. US CHARGE, ACKNOWLEDGING DEAN DE STAERCKE'S REMARKS, INDICATED IT WAS PERHAPS PREMATURE TO DISCUSS THE SPECIFIC TIMING AND THE SPECIFIC AGENDA FOR A REINFORCED CONSULTATION ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS. HE THOUGHT THE COUNCIL SHOULD REMAIN FLEXIBLE AND IN ANY CASE NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT MAY PROVE VALUABLE TO SCHEDULE SUCH A MEETING PRIOR TO THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL. CHARGE NOTED
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ONE OR MORE OF THE EAST-WEST TOPICS SYG LUNS HAD SUGGESTED (SALT, MBFR AND CSCE) MAY AT THAT TIME BE RIPE FOR HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATION. HE ADDED THAT MESSRS. SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN ALSO HAD FOUND THEIR CONVERSATIONS WITH NATO AMBASSADORS AND TOP POLICY-LEVEL OFFICERS FROM CAPITALS DURING PREVIOUS REINFORCED NAC CONSULTATIONS ON EAST-WEST MATTERS TO BE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF US VIEWS ON IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THESE PROBLEMS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 5535

7. CANADIAN PERMREP MENZIES SAID THAT A
NAC CONSULTATION ON THE FAR EAST IN THE NEAR FUTURE
WAS PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE GIVEN RECENT EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST
ASIA AND THE FACT THAT TWO MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE "AND
INDEED THE ALLIANCE ITSELF" HAVE "FRONTS" ON THE PACIFIC
OCEAN. FURTHERMORE, MENZIES SPECULATED, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HABIB'S VISIT WOULD PROVE ESPECIALLY TIMELY AS HABIB WOULD
PROBABLY HAVE ACCOMPANIED SECRETARY KISSINGER ON VISITS TO

PEKING AND TOKYO JUST PRIOR TO COMING TO NATO

8. RECOMMENDATION: WE BELIEVE IT IS NOW TIME TO TURN
ATTENTION TO FIXING A DATE FOR THE SECOND ITEM ON THE SYG'S
PROGRAM - A REINFORCED CONSULTATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST. THE
DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT IN OUR ORIGINAL SUGGESTION TO
LUNS WE MENTIONED THAT A NOVEMBER REINFORCED MIDDLE EAST
CONSULTATION MIGHT BE ORGANIZED SOMEWHAT DIFFERENTLY FROM PREVIOUS
ONES (SUCH AS THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SEPTEMBER 4 MEETING OF
ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON WITH THE NAC), WHICH HAVE BEEN
TO A LARGE EXTENT US BRIEFINGS ON LATEST MIDDLE EAST DEVELOP-
MENTS. WE WOULD FORESEE THE LATER NOVEMBER TIMING FOR THE
LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS, BUT
RATHER BY THE UTILITY OF HAVING A MORE PERIODIC WIDE-RANGING
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OVERVIEW OF THE ENTIRE AREA. THUS, WE SUGGESTED THE CONSUL-
TATION MIGHT BE KEYED INSTEAD TO THE REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF TWO REPORTS RELATED TO THIS AREA:
THOSE OF THE NATO MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL EXPERTS AND OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN DRAFTING GROUP. THE ADVANTAGES OF TYING A
REINFORCED MIDDLE EAST DEBATE TO THESE REPORTS WOULD BE
THREE-FOLD: (A) THE DATE FOR SUCH CONSULTATION AND THE
SCHEDULES OF HIGH-LEVEL MIDDLE EAST POLICY OFFICIALS COULD
BE PLANNED WELL IN ADVANCE AND WOULD NOT HINGE ON
LATEST PROGRESS IN MIDDLE EAST DIPLO-
MACY; (B) THE CONSULTATION COULD SERVE TO HELP RELATED THE
WORK OF THESE TWO STUDY GROUPS WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH
COULD GIVE MORE DIRECTION TO THE SUBORDINATE BODIES; AND
(C) THE COUNCIL MUST CONSIDER THESE TWO REPORTS IN ANY CASE,
AND IN DOING SO COULD PROFIT FROM THE ASSISTANCE OF "REIN-
FORCEMENTS" FROM CAPITALS.

9. THE NATO MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL EXPERTS ARE SCHEDULED TO
MEET FROM OCTOBER 13 TO 15 AND THEIR REPORT WOULD NORMALLY

BE AVAILABLE TWO OR THREE WEEKS LATER. THE MEDITERRANEAN
STUDY GROUP WILL MEET FROM NOVEMBER 4 TO 7 AND ITS REPORT
WOULD NORMALLY BE AVAILABE FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ABOUT
TWO WEEKS LATER. THUS, WE SUGGEST A REINFORCED NAC ON THE
MIDDLE EAST MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE ANY TIME DURING THE LAST
TWO WEEKS OF NOVEMBER. THE PRESENCE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY
ATHERTON AT SUCH A CONSULATION WOULD BE MOST DESIRABLE.
REQUEST GUIDANCE.STREATOR

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